



# Nursery News

## Welcome Back!



Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Dear Parents,

We would like to wish all of our children and families a warm welcome back to the new term and a very Happy New Year. The children have started to settle back into routine and recall expectations within Nursery. They have loved our new 'Little Town' theme already and have kept staff busy with new ideas to enhance learning. This term we will be having a focus on promoting independence with all children including putting on and zipping coats, changing shoes for outdoors as well as using the toilet. We would appreciate your support with these skills at home and when children enter or leave Nursery. We will also focus on Literacy and Numeracy skills within Key Worker ensuring children meet their end of year expectations within these areas. Book Diaries were FANTASTIC! Staff have been overwhelmed by the amazing first entries by children, they have been eager to share and to take new books home with them which is just what we want. We would like to remind families of upcoming events in Nursery for the Spring term.

- **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February; Chinese New Year celebrations.** We will be carrying out a range of crafts, making and tasting Chinese food in the run up to the festival which is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February.
- **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February; Book Week celebrations.** We will be inviting children to bring their favourite book into Nursery to share during Key Worker session.
- **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February; Pancake Week celebrations.** We will be carrying out a range of activities based on the story 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes'.
- **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March; beginning of Parental Consultations.** This is an opportunity for you to come into Nursery and discuss your child's progress and development with Mrs Bell and your child's key worker. Learning journeys will be available for you to look through. Letters to arrange appointments will be sent home in the new year.

### Early Reading and Writing Information Letters and Sounds



Children have recently been placed into phonics groups to ensure that they are working with sounds and activities that are at their stage of development. We are focusing on recognising, hearing and forming letter sounds. Children have also begun looking at CVC words e.g. cat, sat, mat. We will continue with hearing initial sounds and rhyming words to support early reading skills. We have also been using the website...

[www.ictgames.com](http://www.ictgames.com)

This has a range of early reading activities on which we use in Nursery. We love the phoneme pop and bingo games.

#### I can write my name

We are working with children on formation of letters within their name. We remind children of this using the Read, Write, Inc. rhymes.

### Maths Information

Our focus on maths skills this half term is number recognition, writing numbers, counting out objects from a larger group, placing objects in a line to count them as well as problem solving activities with a focus on early language.

We are promoting these skills in areas of provision ensuring children can apply modelled skills independently. Children have been writing their own price tags for the items in the Supermarket, attaching raffle tickets in the laundrette and ringing 999 in the Fire Station. They have also been looking at coins in the Supermarket. To promote these skills with your child when your out and about why not go on a number hunt (use door numbers, signs, prices at the supermarket), count toys at home during play/bath times or even when your baking.



### Outdoor Clothing

As the weather is changing children must wear wellingtons to access the outdoor environment, this ensures children can develop an understanding of appropriate clothing for outdoors as well as keeping our indoor environment clean and safe. Children who have their own wellingtons can keep these in their tray, under the outdoor shelter or under their peg (pegs are to stay for the session children attend only). If your child needs their wellingtons for home time please could you inform staff at the start of sessions as home times are often busy and all staff have roles during this time to ensure the safety of all of our children.

We have a set of waterproofs for children during bad weather however children do still get a little wet. We do our utmost to ensure that children's clothing is returned dry to you.

### Key Worker Group

Key worker groups are now beginning their topic of interests and this is beginning to support and extend the play and skills being observed in areas. We will keep you updated about each key worker groups topic. Currently the groups are focusing on...

**Gruffalo's (Mrs Bell's morning group);** There's a DINOSAUR in my BATHTUB. Children have enjoyed the story about Amelia and her friend Pierre who have many adventures together. This has led to lots of discussion about food and cookery. Children have expressed an interest in cooking sausages, pasta, potatoes (in a variety of ways) as well as carrot cake. Through this we can look at a range of skills including maths, literacy, understanding the world, physical and personal and social.

**Gruffalo's Child (Mrs Bell's afternoon group);** Dinosaurs have taken off with the children and they have read a story... Dinosaur Bones. Children will be looking at the different types of dinosaurs, dinosaur bones, fossils, excavating bones as well as size of these. We will be painting dinosaurs as well as making salt dough bones.

**Foxes (Mrs Groser's morning group);** Children have become interested in knights, dragons and castles. Children enjoyed the story 'The Kiss that Missed' and this has led to lots of ideas shared about what could happen in a story, therefore children will be creating their own story based on their interest.

**Snakes (Mrs Groser's afternoon group);** The children have loved our pet shop and this has led to lots of discussion about animals and pets. Children will be talking about different types of animals, where they live, what they eat, which pet they would choose and why as well as painting a picture of these.

**Squirrel's Child (Mrs Lowes' Early Red group);** Dinosaurs have also taken off with the children in this group and they have read a story... Winnie's Dinosaur Day. Children will be looking at the different types of dinosaurs, dinosaur bones, fossils, excavating bones as well as size of these. Children will be creating their own painting masterpiece just like Winnie did in this story.

**Owl's Child (Mrs Goodall's Late Green group);** The children become interested in knights, princesses, dragons and castles. Children have enjoyed a range of stories based upon these interests and this has led to lots of discussions about their favourite story involving these characters and settings, therefore children will be creating their own story based on their interest.

### Parental Consultation

Alongside your newsletter you will be receiving a letter about the opportunity to come into Nursery regarding your child's progress. You will be able to look through your child's learning journeys either before or after the appointment and then discuss with staff your child's progress. This is an opportunity to discuss general progress within Nursery and if you have a number of things you would like to discuss we would ask that you see Mrs Bell to make a separate appointment, as due to the number of children within Nursery time slots have been allocated.

Appointments will begin the week of **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March** and we ask you note down which you are free on and you will be allocated a slot within this session. We ask that you return these slips as soon as possible so that we can arrange times prior to the half term. If you have any questions or queries please see Mrs Bell.

### Nursery Spare Clothing



We would like to ask that those children who have borrowed spare clothing from Nursery return this please. If anyone has any old clothing you could provide us with we would really appreciate socks, tights, underpants and polo t-shirts.

### Junk Modelling Materials



We would be grateful for any donations of junk to help us keep our supermarket full of new deliveries. The children have loved having a range of boxes to buy. These will also be used in our workshop area when children can create their own models.

### Nursery Fund

Thank you to those of you who continue to support Nursery with your very kind donations. It really has made the difference to the resources we can purchase to support children's learning further. Money this term will be supporting our Chinese New Year and Pancake weeks. The Nursery Money Box is in the cloakroom and we really would appreciate your contributions as would the children!



THANK YOU

Thank you for your continued support!  
Mrs Bell, Mrs Groser, Mrs Goodall, Mrs Lowes and Mrs Hill

